



Constitution and By-Laws

OF THE

WENTWORTH

PIONEER ^{AND} HISTORICAL

SOCIETY.

HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Organized 5th Jan., 1889.

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1889.

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HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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By-Laws.

1.—The President shall be *ex-officio* chairman of all meetings, ordinary or special, where he shall be present.

2.—In case of the absence of the President, the Vice-Presidents shall preside, taking rank by seniority.

3.—Should neither President nor Vice-President be present at any meeting, ordinary or extraordinary, the members present may elect a member to preside, who, for the time being, shall be clothed with the powers of the President.

4.—In case of two members rising to address the meeting at the same time, the presiding officer shall decide who shall take precedence.

5.—Any member addressing the meeting shall do so through the chairman or presiding officer.

6.—At all meetings the Chair is to be taken punctually at the hour appointed ; and in case thirty minutes shall elapse without a quorum, the meeting will stand adjourned until such time as the members present shall name and appoint.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

The order of business at the meetings of the Society shall be as follows :

- 1.—Calling to order.
- 2.—Reading and confirming minutes.
- 3.—Reading and referring correspondence, applications, etc.
- 4.—Nomination and election of members.
- 5.—Introduction of new members.
- 6.—Reports of committees.
- 7.—Inquiries and notices of motion.
- 8.—Unfinished and miscellaneous business.
- 9.—Adjournment.

Constitution . .



NAME.

The name of the society shall be THE WENTWORTH PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

OBJECTS.

Its objects shall be,

1.—To prosecute researches into the history and archæology of the province of Ontario, and into the genealogy of the inhabitants thereof.

2.—To publish the results of those researches so far as may be deemed advisable.

3.—To collect and maintain a library of books, pamphlets and manuscripts, more especially such as relate to the history of this province.

4.—To collect and preserve such archæological and other specimens, relics and traditions as tend to illustrate that history.

5.—To record passing events of importance with accuracy.

6.—To create and perpetuate a closer and more friendly relationship between the early settlers of the country and their descendants.

MEMBERSHIP.

The Society shall consist of active and honorary members.

Active members, resident in the county of Wentworth, or within ten miles thereof, shall pay a subscription fee of one dollar per annum in advance.

Honorary members shall be admitted without fee or imposition of any kind.

Honorary membership shall be conferred only upon such persons, wheresoever resident, as, in the opinion of the Society, may for some special reason be considered entitled to such distinction.

Payment by any member of a fee of twenty dollars shall entitle him to life membership, and from the time of such payment he shall be free from all annual and other fees whatsoever.

From and after the first day of May next, every candidate for admission to membership of the Society shall be proposed and seconded by members at an ordinary or general meeting of the Society, and shall be elected by a two-thirds vote of the members present at such ordinary or general meeting.

All votes for membership shall be by ballot.

Every member on being elected shall either personally, or through his mover or seconder, pay his annual subscription of one dollar, previous to his name being entered on the roll of members.

Any member who shall refuse or neglect to pay his dues for two years after they have accrued, provided he has been notified of his delinquency by the Secretary, shall be considered as having withdrawn himself from the Society, and the Secretary shall erase his name from the list of members.

OFFICERS.

The officers of the Society shall consist of fifteen persons, all of whom shall be active members, viz.: A President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary-Treasurer, and eleven other members. These shall form the Executive Council of the Society, and the President, Vice-Presidents, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be, *ex officio*, members thereof.

The government and exclusive management of the Society's affairs shall be, and hereby is, vested in the said Executive Council, five members whereof shall be necessary to form a quorum.

The President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary-Treasurer, and eleven Executive Councilors shall in future be elected annually, by ballot, at an annual meeting, to be held at the headquarters of the Society or at such other place as may be agreed upon, at eight o'clock in the evening of the fifth day of June, or the first legal day thereafter, of each succeeding year.

If any member of the Executive Council shall be absent from the meetings for a continuous period of three months, unless by reason of illness, absence from the province, or other just cause, his office may be declared vacant by the Society and a successor elected in his stead.

In case of demission of office by any Executive Councilor, whether by death, resignation or otherwise, the vacancy thereby created shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the Society, by the election of another member in his place, and the person so elected shall hold office for the unexpired term of the person vacating the same.

The President, or in case of his absence one of the Vice-Presidents, or in case of their absence a chairman *pro tem*, shall preside at all meetings of the Society, and shall have a casting vote. He shall be entitled to decide all questions of order, and his decision shall be subject to an appeal to the Executive Council, whose decision shall be final and conclusive.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep the minutes and records of the Society, and give due notice of its meetings. For the time being, and until the appointment of a special officer for that purpose shall become necessary, he shall also act as Librarian. He shall receive all monies of the Society, and disburse the same, subject to the order of the Executive Council. He shall furthermore keep an account of the receipts and expenditure, and submit the same to the Society at its annual meeting, or whenever required to do so.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Society shall hold ordinary meetings for the despatch of business on the first Saturday in every month, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, when the presence of seven members shall be necessary to form a quorum.

A special meeting of the Society may be called by the President or either of the Vice-Presidents upon a requisition, signed by at least five members, which meeting shall be competent to entertain only the business for which it was specially called.

